

memorandum

DATE: March 7, 2003

REPLY TO
ATTN OF: EM-1 1 (Steven Frank, 202-586-7478)

SUBJECT: Annual National Environmental Policy Act (**NEPA**) Planning Summary for the **Office** of
Environmental Management Headquarters **Office**

to: Beverly Cook, Assistant Secretary for Environment, Safety and Health

In accordance with Department of Energy (DOE) Order 45 1.1 B, I am providing the Office of Environmental Management's (EM) Headquarter's Annual NEPA Planning Summary. This summary briefly describes the status of any ongoing EM NEPA compliance activities: any Environmental Assessments (**EAs**) expected to be prepared in the forthcoming 12 months and any Environmental Impact Statements (**EISs**) expected to be prepared in the next 24 months. A Supplement Analysis, which is in process, also is described. The summary also identifies our best estimate of cost and schedule. The activities described below only relate to EM Headquarters NEPA activities. EM Field Office NEPA activities are being reported through the respective DOE Field Offices.

Environmental Assessment

No Environmental Assessments to report.

Environmental Impact Statement

Scrap Metals Disposition Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS).

The Scrap Metals Disposition PEIS will help determine whether DOE releases into general commerce scrap metal that may have residual radioactivity and, if so, what release standards or other criteria would apply. Alternatives under consideration include no release and release under three different technical standards. The Notice of Intent was issued on July **12, 2001**. The scoping period ended on November **9, 2001**. A draft PEIS is expected in spring 2003 and a final PEIS and subsequent Record of Decision (ROD) are planned for fall 2003. The projected cost for the PEIS is approximately **\$1,400,000**.

Supplement Analysis

Supplement Analysis and Revised Record of Decision for the DOE's Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) Disposal Phase

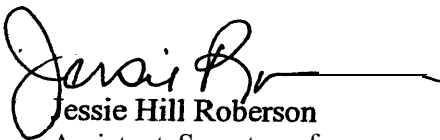
The DOE has completed a Supplement Analysis (SA) and is revising the **Record of Decision (ROD) for the Department of Energy's Waste Isolation Pilot Plant Disposal Phase** (63 FR 3624, January 23, 1998). Subject to final regulatory approval by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, DOE intends to dispose of its transuranic (**TRU**) waste containing polychlorinated

biphenyls (PCBs) at the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant near Carlsbad, New Mexico. The DOE's current inventory identifies approximately 1,700 cubic meters of defense TRU waste commingled with PCBs at six DOE sites. The revised ROD will be going into the concurrence process in March 2003.

Amended Record of Decision on Storage of Surplus Plutonium

EM is proposing to amend the *Records of Decision (ROD) for the Storage and Disposition of Weapons- Usable Fissile Materials Final Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (Storage and Disposition PEIS)* and *Surplus Plutonium Disposition Environmental Impact Statement (SPD EIS)*. Specifically, EM proposes to take the actions necessary to transfer surplus plutonium materials currently stored at the Hanford Site, the Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory, the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, and the Los Alamos National Laboratory to the Savannah River Site for long-term storage and support EM's accelerated nuclear materials consolidation objective (Assistant Secretary for Environmental Management memorandum dated October 10, 2002). This proposed action will complete implementation of consolidated long-term storage of surplus non-pit plutonium (Amended ROD, 67 FR 19432, April 19, 2002). This proposed action to amend the above referenced **RODs** will be based on the outcome of discussions with the General Counsel on the NEPA strategy to support Departmental policy on storage and disposition of surplus plutonium.

If you have any questions, please call me at (202) 586-77 10 or Mr. Steven Frank, EM NEPA Compliance Officer, at (202) 586-7478.


Jessie Hill Roberson
Assistant Secretary for
Environmental Management

3-14-2003